



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Pest Detection and Management Programs – Program Update

Program: Huanglongbing (HLB – Citrus Greening) Date: September 29, 2005

As of September 29, there are 63 personnel on-site at the incident, (42 are federal and 21 state employees). Teams are currently in southern Broward County. Several survey strike teams have been conducting reconnaissance ahead of the regular survey teams, into northern Broward and Palm Beach Counties, and into southernmost commercial groves. New putative positive sections (one mile square areas) continue to be found by the teams. To date, 1,117 properties have been surveyed, from which 517 symptomatic samples were collected. Using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) as the diagnostic tool, 75 trees were determined to be putative positive (in 63 residential properties in Miami-Dade and southern Broward county) by the FDACS laboratory in Gainesville, FL, and 14 have been confirmed positive by the PPQ National Plant Germplasm and Biotechnology Laboratory in Beltsville, MD.

An Environmental Assessment (EA), on the “Citrus Greening Control Program in Florida Nurseries” has been posted on the APHIS website at (http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/enviro_docs/citrusgreening.html). Information on citrus greening and the availability of the EA will be posted in Florida newspapers (Miami Herald, The Sun Sentinel, and El Nuevo Herald - in English and Spanish), beginning September 29, 2005. Public comments will be accepted up to October 28, 2005. Initial steps are being taken to implement a direct-mail campaign to over 12,000 registered landscapists in Miami-Dade County to advise them of citrus and ornamental clipping disposal restrictions. The State of Florida is continuing to issue compliance agreements to nurseries as requested. Several garden centers within the regulated area have been quarantined.